



## INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics —

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## WAGE RATES INDEXES, MAY 1977 (PRELIMINARY)

### MAIN FEATURES

- In May 1977 the weighted average minimum weekly wage rate increased by \$2.59 (1.8 per cent) for adult males and \$2.45 (1.9 per cent) for adult females.
- Indexation rises in Federal and State awards accounted for almost all of these increases.
- In the twelve months ended May 1977, the adult male wage rates index rose by 10.9 per cent; 94 per cent of this rise was attributable to indexation increases. For adult females the corresponding figures were 11.8 per cent and 93 per cent.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

More information on these statistics of weighted average minimum weekly and hourly wage rates and index numbers for adult males and adult females will appear later in the monthly bulletin *Wage Rates and Earnings* (Reference No. 6.16) which also contains explanatory notes covering definitions, scope of the statistics, etc.

2. The wage rates used in the compilation of the indexes are the lowest rates for a full week's work (excluding overtime) prescribed for particular occupations in awards or determinations of Federal or State industrial authorities; in collective agreements registered with these authorities; or in unregistered collective agreements where these are dominant in particular industries. The indexes are designed to measure movements in prescribed minimum rates of

wages as distinct from *salaries*; those awards, etc. which relate solely or mainly to salary earners are therefore excluded. Because of delays in the receipt of notification of changes in wage rates as well as retrospective changes to rates, figures for the latest twelve months shown are subject to revision. As such revisions are made they are published in the normal monthly tables of this statement.

3. The indexes are designed to measure trends in wage rates in current awards, etc. excluding the effects of changes in the relative importance of industries, awards and occupations. The weighted average wage rates shown in these tables are therefore indexes expressed in money terms, and do not purport to be actual current averages. Similarly, neither these weighted average wage rates nor the corresponding index numbers measure the relative levels of average current wage rates as between States or industries.

4. For adult males the weekly wage rates exclude rural industry; in addition the hourly rates exclude shipping and stevedoring, for which data to compute hourly wages are not available. The weekly and hourly wage rates for adult females exclude rural industry, mining and quarrying and building and construction.

5. The annual changes shown in Tables 1, 2 and 4 measure the percentage change from the same month for the previous year. The percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes.

TABLE 1. WEEKLY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES  
ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; weighted average minimum hourly rates payable; and index numbers of wage rates.

End of —	Adult males					Adult females				
	Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates		Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates	
	Wage rates \$	Annual change(a) %	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)	Wage rates \$	Annual change(a) %	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)
1976 —										
May	129.53	15.3	458.6	323.26	456.9	119.84	17.6	602.0	302.09	602.1
June	129.68	15.0	459.2	323.66	457.5	120.36	15.7	604.6	303.39	604.7
July	129.72	14.8	459.3	323.75	457.6	120.40	15.2	604.8	303.51	605.0
August	132.33	16.8	468.5	330.31	466.9	122.98	17.4	617.7	310.00	617.9
September	132.34	12.5	468.6	330.35	466.9	122.98	13.5	617.7	310.00	617.9
October	132.34	12.4	468.6	330.33	466.9	123.00	13.5	617.8	310.05	618.0
November	135.14	14.8	478.5	337.33	476.8	125.72	16.0	631.5	316.91	631.7
December	135.16	14.6	478.6	337.37	476.9	125.73	15.8	631.5	316.93	631.7
1977 —										
January	135.21	14.4	478.7	337.49	477.0	125.77	15.8	631.7	317.03	631.9
February	135.47	7.8	479.7	338.17	478.0	125.98	8.8	632.8	317.57	633.0
March	140.90	12.0	498.9	351.78	497.2	131.46	13.4	660.3	331.38	660.5
April	141.04	12.1	499.4	352.15	497.7	131.48	13.0	660.4	331.43	660.6
May	143.63	10.9	508.6	358.61	506.9	133.93	11.8	672.7	337.60	672.9

(a) See explanatory notes above. (b) Base : Weighted average wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.



TABLE 2. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 MAY 1977 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change (a) %	Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia	Australia
Mining and quarrying (b)	199.36	139.29	179.28	135.19	143.13	154.44	179.47	11.7	635.5
Manufacturing —									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	131.80	137.35	143.49	135.23	137.87	135.94	135.15	11.3	478.5
Textiles, clothing and footwear	131.84	132.69	134.71	131.51	135.77	128.20	132.42	11.3	468.9
Food, drink and tobacco	139.62	139.73	143.78	135.00	142.78	137.86	140.24	11.0	496.6
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	138.01	131.28	142.75	131.03	136.76	130.55	136.38	11.2	482.9
Paper, printing, etc.	139.93	147.88	156.47	145.82	152.91	140.30	145.08	10.6	513.7
Other manufacturing	137.69	138.45	139.69	137.45	136.86	132.23	137.91	11.3	488.3
All manufacturing groups	134.71	137.56	143.35	135.70	138.75	135.12	136.83	11.2	484.5
Building and construction	158.50	157.19	146.48	152.68	146.44	143.70	153.79	9.9	544.5
Railway services	130.71	125.82	146.91	130.94	124.60	131.20	133.20	11.6	471.6
Road and air transport	146.17	137.99	137.72	137.74	142.03	140.93	141.68	10.9	501.7
Shipping and stevedoring (c)	174.69	175.61	168.01	166.25	176.88	172.42	172.79	9.4	611.8
Communication	170.03	170.99	169.64	168.83	170.67	165.67	170.04	9.8	602.1
Wholesale and retail trade	142.93	144.98	144.49	140.03	140.41	144.74	143.28	10.7	507.3
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	148.35	144.93	150.63	137.50	143.03	157.54	146.68	11.6	519.4
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	136.35	132.53	135.71	128.25	120.69	127.10	133.01	11.1	471.0
All industry groups (a)	144.44	142.28	147.57	140.46	141.41	142.37	143.63	10.9	508.6

For footnotes see Table below.

TABLE 3. HOURLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 MAY 1977 (a)

Weighted average minimum hourly rates payable and index numbers of hourly rates.

Industry group	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
Wage rates (cents)							
Mining and quarrying (b)	557.67	348.24	473.26	337.98	375.05	394.82	484.30
Manufacturing —							
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	329.61	343.62	358.95	338.08	344.97	339.84	338.02
Textiles, clothing and footwear	329.59	331.73	336.77	328.77	339.43	320.51	331.06
Food, drink and tobacco	349.54	349.32	359.46	337.51	356.96	344.65	350.76
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	345.04	328.19	356.87	327.59	341.90	326.37	340.94
Paper, printing, etc.	349.83	370.24	391.18	364.54	389.99	350.76	363.16
Other manufacturing	344.22	346.45	349.22	344.45	341.37	330.84	344.92
All manufacturing groups	336.90	344.09	358.45	339.39	347.15	337.85	342.23
Building and construction	396.24	392.96	366.20	381.69	366.09	359.25	384.48
Railway services	326.77	314.89	367.27	327.35	311.50	328.00	333.06
Road and air transport	365.42	344.98	344.30	344.34	355.08	352.33	354.20
Communication	436.14	440.33	436.86	439.94	439.51	427.20	437.65
Wholesale and retail trade	357.34	362.44	361.22	350.07	351.02	361.86	358.21
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	378.18	372.24	381.13	350.48	361.36	399.98	373.71
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	340.86	331.32	339.28	320.62	301.72	317.75	332.52
All industry groups (a)	361.61	354.65	368.67	349.45	352.73	352.33	358.61
Index numbers (Base : Weighted average hourly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100)							
Mining and quarrying (b)	788.2	492.2	668.9	477.7	530.1	558.0	684.5
Manufacturing —							
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	465.9	485.7	507.3	477.9	487.6	480.3	477.8
Textiles, clothing and footwear	465.8	468.9	476.0	464.7	479.8	453.0	467.9
Food, drink and tobacco	494.0	493.7	508.1	477.0	504.5	487.1	495.8
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	487.7	463.9	504.4	463.0	483.3	461.3	481.9
Paper, printing, etc.	494.5	523.3	552.9	515.2	551.2	495.8	513.3
Other manufacturing	486.5	489.7	493.6	486.9	482.5	467.6	487.5
All manufacturing groups	476.2	486.3	506.6	479.7	490.7	477.5	483.7
Building and construction	560.1	555.4	517.6	539.5	517.4	507.8	543.4
Railway services	461.9	445.1	519.1	462.7	440.3	463.6	470.8
Road and air transport	516.5	487.6	486.6	486.7	501.9	498.0	500.6
Communication	616.5	622.4	617.5	621.8	621.2	603.8	618.6
Wholesale and retail trade	505.1	512.3	510.6	494.8	496.1	511.5	506.3
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	534.5	526.1	538.7	495.4	510.8	565.3	528.2
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	481.8	468.3	479.5	453.2	426.5	449.1	470.0
All industry groups (a)	511.1	501.3	521.1	493.9	498.6	498.0	506.9

(a) See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) For mining, wage rates used are those prescribed for the principal mining centres and include lead bonuses, etc. (c) Includes wage rates (and value of keep) for occupations in the coastal shipping service, other than masters, officers and engineers.



TABLE 4. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT FEMALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 MAY 1977 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change (a) %	Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (b)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia	Australia
Manufacturing –									
Engineering, metals, vehicles etc.	128.93	135.83	131.20	130.01	132.62	130.70	131.50	11.3	660.5
Textiles, clothing and footwear	127.07	126.12	126.61	128.50	128.10	123.50	126.61	13.5	636.0
Food, drink and tobacco	133.29	133.15	134.13	130.42	121.05	128.61	132.33	11.5	664.7
Other manufacturing	130.68	132.78	134.03	129.56	129.84	126.09	131.49	11.4	660.5
All manufacturing groups	129.05	129.57	130.32	129.57	127.41	126.27	129.29	12.4	649.4
Transport and communication	135.27	137.32	141.71	140.37	134.68	142.79	137.43	11.0	690.3
Wholesale and retail trade	141.14	144.80	141.66	140.07	137.97	134.21	141.64	10.9	711.5
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	140.72	140.19	137.64	134.80	135.67	137.86	139.36	11.6	700.0
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	131.48	128.76	129.54	125.48	115.81	123.27	128.73	11.7	646.6
All industry groups (a)	133.88	134.06	135.82	133.78	131.38	130.22	133.93	11.8	672.7

(a) See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Base : Weighted average weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.

TABLE 5. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES, ALL GROUPS (a) (\$)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

End of –	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
							Federal awards, etc.	State awards, etc.	All awards, etc.
ADULT MALES									
1976 –									
May	130.41	128.35	133.56	126.74	125.38	128.76	130.48	128.38	129.53
June	130.51	128.59	133.61	126.77	125.89	128.75	130.53	128.66	129.68
July	130.54	128.63	133.61	126.78	126.01	128.76	130.53	128.73	129.72
August	133.14	131.19	136.12	129.35	129.22	131.31	133.09	131.41	132.33
September	133.16	131.19	136.12	129.36	129.30	131.31	133.09	131.44	132.34
October	133.14	131.19	136.12	129.35	129.39	131.31	133.09	131.44	132.34
November	135.86	134.00	139.13	132.15	132.24	134.11	135.92	134.20	135.14
December	135.90	134.00	139.15	132.16	132.24	134.11	135.92	134.24	135.16
1977 –									
January	135.99	134.00	139.15	132.20	132.28	134.11	135.92	134.34	135.21
February	135.97	134.00	139.15	132.20	136.19	134.11	135.92	134.92	135.47
March	141.71	139.70	144.85	137.92	137.76	139.81	141.62	140.03	140.90
April	141.77	139.70	144.88	137.92	139.40	139.81	141.62	140.34	141.04
May	144.44	142.28	147.57	140.46	141.41	142.37	144.21	142.92	143.63
ADULT FEMALES									
1976 –									
May	120.07	119.94	121.85	119.84	114.89	115.97	113.11	125.69	119.84
June	120.48	120.70	122.04	120.28	115.34	116.94	114.04	125.85	120.36
July	120.48	120.70	122.04	120.28	116.22	116.94	114.04	125.93	120.40
August	123.02	123.22	124.51	122.79	119.73	119.45	116.56	128.55	122.98
September	123.02	123.22	124.51	122.79	119.76	119.45	116.56	128.55	122.98
October	123.02	123.22	124.51	122.79	120.14	119.45	116.56	128.59	123.00
November	125.72	125.90	127.61	125.48	122.60	122.09	119.11	131.46	125.72
December	125.72	125.90	127.61	125.55	122.64	122.09	119.11	131.47	125.73
1977 –									
January	125.72	125.90	127.61	125.55	123.38	122.09	119.11	131.54	125.77
February	125.72	125.90	127.62	125.55	127.46	122.09	119.11	131.94	125.98
March	131.41	131.60	133.32	131.33	128.88	127.79	124.81	137.23	131.46
April	131.41	131.60	133.32	131.33	129.25	127.79	124.81	137.27	131.48
May	133.88	134.06	135.82	133.78	131.38	130.22	127.14	139.82	133.93

(a) See explanatory notes on page 1.



TABLE 6. DISTRIBUTION OF WEEKLY WAGE RATES : WAGE RATES INDEXES, MAY 1977 (a)

Weekly wage rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime) as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
ADULT MALES							
Weekly wage rates (\$) –	Proportion of index weights in each weekly wage rates group (per cent)						
Less than 104.99	..	..	..	..	1.0	..	0.1
105.00 to 109.99	0.8	0.3	1.8	1.1	1.9	0.3	0.9
110.00 to 114.99	2.0	0.5	0.6	1.1	4.8	1.6	1.5
115.00 to 119.99	9.0	10.2	1.6	9.9	9.0	3.0	8.2
120.00 to 124.99	8.8	6.9	5.9	8.5	8.2	11.4	7.9
125.00 to 129.99	6.0	9.6	6.6	7.0	6.4	14.7	7.5
130.00 to 134.99	10.1	6.7	8.9	9.2	4.4	9.0	8.5
135.00 to 139.99	15.2	22.5	17.6	18.9	14.6	13.8	17.8
140.00 to 144.99	11.0	11.7	7.5	16.6	13.2	15.5	11.5
145.00 to 149.99	7.6	6.7	12.5	7.2	7.7	5.5	7.9
150.00 to 154.99	4.0	6.3	9.6	1.4	2.6	1.6	5.0
155.00 to 159.99	4.4	1.6	3.1	2.5	8.3	4.7	3.5
160.00 to 169.99	7.4	5.9	9.1	7.7	11.6	6.0	7.5
170.00 to 179.99	3.8	4.0	10.9	7.7	2.4	10.7	5.3
180.00 to 189.99	4.2	4.5	1.0	0.2	0.5	0.5	3.1
190.00 to 199.99	2.1	1.8	2.2	0.4	1.7	0.3	1.8
200.00 and over	3.5	0.9	1.0	0.7	1.7	1.4	2.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Weighted average (mean) (\$)	144.44	142.28	147.57	140.46	141.41	142.37	143.63
Median (\$) (b)	139.51	138.20	144.48	138.50	139.90	139.10	139.51
Proportion of weekly rates equal to the minimum wage (per cent)							
Federal awards, etc.	..	0.3	..	0.2	..	0.4	0.1
State awards, etc.	1.2	*	2.0	2.4	1.5	0.4	1.3
All awards, etc.	0.5	0.2	1.8	0.8	1.3	0.4	0.7
ADULT FEMALES							
Weekly wage rates (\$) –	Proportion of index weights in each weekly wage rates group (per cent)						
Less than 104.99	..	..	..	..	0.6	..	*
105.00 to 109.99	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.7	..	..	1.0
110.00 to 114.99	1.6	2.5	1.7	3.9	12.6	8.9	2.8
115.00 to 119.99	6.6	6.5	4.3	10.3	9.2	2.4	6.6
120.00 to 124.99	17.4	23.6	8.0	12.2	7.6	28.5	17.8
125.00 to 129.99	18.3	18.3	19.2	11.6	10.9	24.1	17.7
130.00 to 134.99	5.0	4.8	8.2	6.1	6.0	3.5	5.4
135.00 to 139.99	9.3	7.2	24.2	8.2	24.6	3.1	10.8
140.00 to 144.99	24.6	10.2	3.4	27.9	25.8	24.7	17.9
145.00 to 149.99	14.0	10.9	23.5	15.5	1.5	2.3	13.2
150.00 to 154.99	1.3	3.1	5.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	2.3
155.00 to 159.99	0.6	10.6	0.3	1.4	0.2	1.1	3.9
160.00 and over	0.3	1.2	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Weighted average (mean) (\$)	133.88	134.06	135.82	133.78	131.38	130.22	133.93
Median (\$) (b)	134.80	126.80	136.75	138.20	137.30	127.00	134.10
Proportion of weekly rates equal to the minimum wage (per cent)							
Federal awards, etc.	0.5	1.8	..	1.0	..	..	1.0
State awards, etc.	0.9	..	0.4	1.2	..	2.8	0.6
All awards, etc.	0.7	1.0	0.3	1.0	..	1.4	0.8

(a) This table shows the distribution of weekly wage rates included in the wage rates indexes, the weighted averages and medians of the indexes, and the percentage of index weights for wage rates equal to the various minimum wages. Comparable figures for March 1977 may be found in the March issue of this statement. (b) The median divides a distribution into two equal groups, one group having rates equal to or above the median and the other having rates equal to or below it, each group having 50 per cent of the relevant weights. \* Less than 0.05 per cent. .. Nil.

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